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To whom it may concern:

- 1 [I do not believe that the nation's high-level radioactive waste should be shipped to Yucca
2 Mountain, Nevada. Yucca Mountain may store radioactive waste that will be hazardous for more
than 10,000 years. Before any transport to Yucca Mountain, we must be aware of all possible
catastrophes. Jerry Szymanski, a geologist who was once a head geologist with the Department
of Energy, has reported a number of potential problems after examining Yucca Mountain, and
particularly an area called Trench 14. He notice several mineral deposits that merited concern,
and particularly a mineral deposit called travertine. This mineral is found in spring deposits and
indicates the presence of warm water, and, along with other findings, suggests warm spring water
from groundwater upwelling. This means that one of Yucca Mountain's most redeeming
characteristics as a storage facility—the low water table—becomes questionable.

I believe this issue deserves further consideration, because the risks are too high to move forward
with unresolved questions.

Sincerely,



Ruth Sontag
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